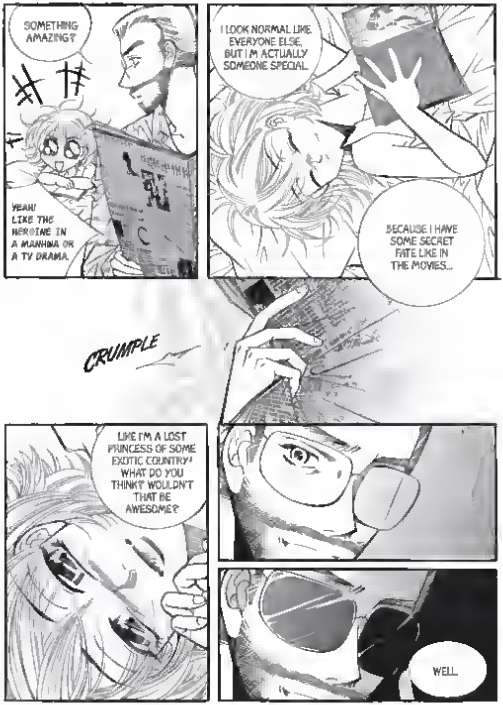
Vol.4 Ch.1

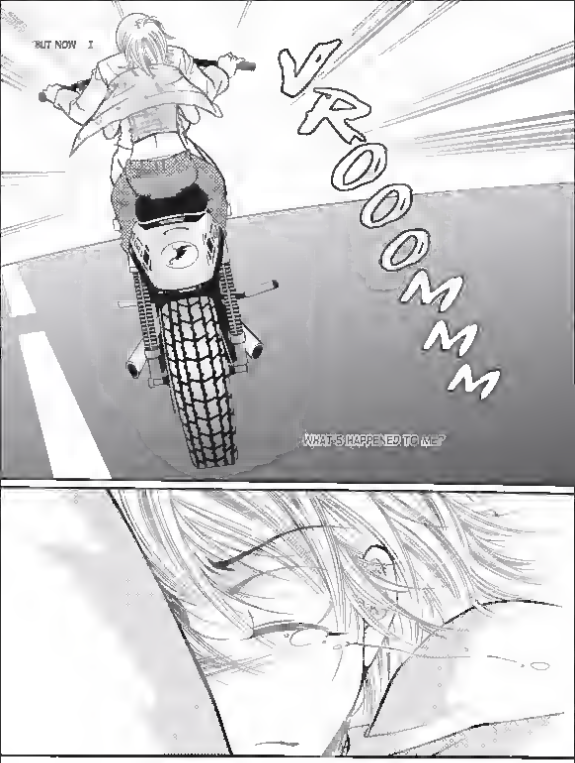
19. A SECRET
DAD AND I...
GUESS WHERE WE ARE.
MMM... THE CORNER WITH THE DRY CLEANERS?
GUESS WHERE WE ARE.
WAIT... IN FRONT OF THE SUPERMARKET?
WOW - IS MY YOGI PSYCHIC?
HEY DAD, DON'T YOU THINK I'M TOO HEAVY?

WHAT DO YOU TAKE YOUR DAD FOR, SQUIRT? NO, YOU'RE NOT HEAVY!
...WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT, I'VE NEVER HAD A MOTHER.
THERE WERE MANY THINGS WE WERE SHORT ON AND MANY THINGS WE LACKED ENTIRELY. IT WAS A MEAGER EXISTENCE WITH THE USUAL STRUGGLES
ALTHOUGH IT WAS A HUMBLE LIFE
I WAS A HAPPY KID
OH, VOLUME 5 OF THAT MANGA I'VE BEEN DYING TO GET!
WHAT HAPPENED?
WOW
THUMP THUMP
DAD DAD
YEAH?
WILL SOMETHING AMAZING HAPPEN TO ME ONE DAY TOO?


SOMETHING AMAZING?
YEAH! LIKE THE HEROINE IN A MANHWA OR A TV DRAMA.
I LOOK NORMAL LIKE EVERYONE ELSE, BUT I'M ACTUALLY SOMEONE SPECIAL.
BECAUSE I HAVE SOME SECRET FATE LIKE IN THE MOVIES...
CRUMPLE
LIKE I'M A LOST PRINCESS OF SOME EXOTIC COUNTRY? WHAT DO YOU THINK? WOULDN'T THAT BE AWESOME?
WELL

YOU'RE DAD'S ONE AND ONLY PRINCESS.
I'M HAPPY AS WE ARE NOW BUT I GUESS YOU'RE NOT HAPPY BEING MY DAUGHTER?
PTTH~ WHO SAID I WASN'T HAPPY?
ALL GIRLS DREAM ABOUT THINGS LIKE THAT GEEZ.
DADDY~ ♡
HUSK
IMAGINATION IS JUST IMAGINATION
I WAS HAPPY IN THAT HUMBLE LIFE..
FORGET IT, I'M ALREADY HUNT
SURE OH, THOSE YOUR IMAGINE

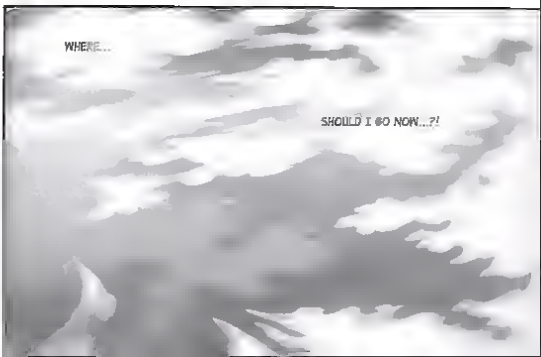
EACH DAY BECAME A MIND-NUMBING BATTLE ...
WHEN DAD DISAPPEARED AND THE CREDITORS SWARMED IN
SWISH
STILL I WASN'T AN UNLUCKY KID
I HAD A GOAL SOMETHING I HAD TO GET BACK
"I WORKED HARD AT EVERYTHING I DID AND WAS A STRONG GIRL WHO DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF


BUT NOW I
VROOOMMM
WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ME?

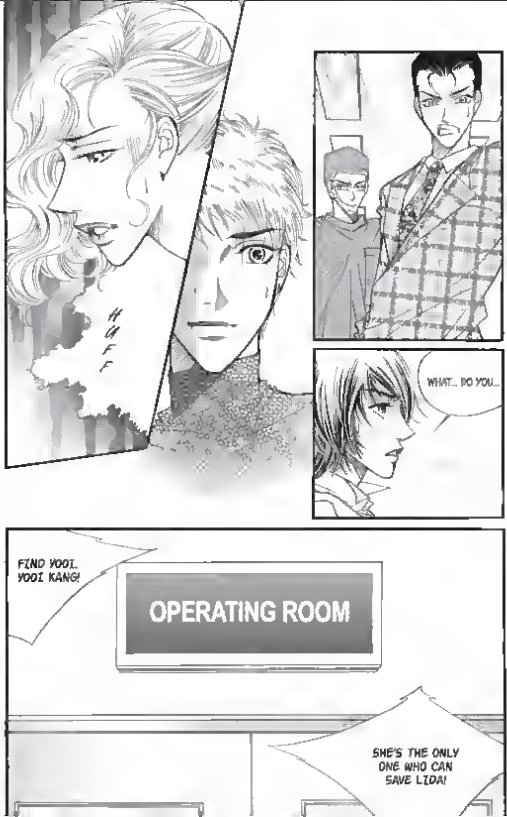
I BECAME SOMEONE THAT I WASN'T..
AND DREAMED ABOUT THINGS THAT DIDN'T BELONG TO ME.
AND FOUND HAPPINESS IN THINGS I CAN NEVER HAVE!

I WASN'T AFRAID,
NO MATTER WHAT CAME MY WAY...

BUT NOW I'M SCARED



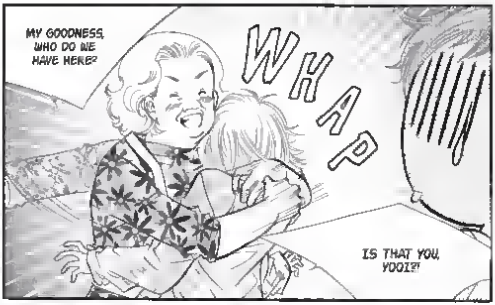
THERE IS
A CHILD WITH THE SAME BLOOD TYPE... AND THE SAME GENES AS LIDA...!

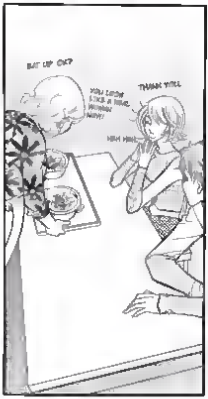

HUFF
WHAT... DO YOU...
FIND YOOI. YOOI KANG!
OPERATING ROOM
SHE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN SAVE LIDA!

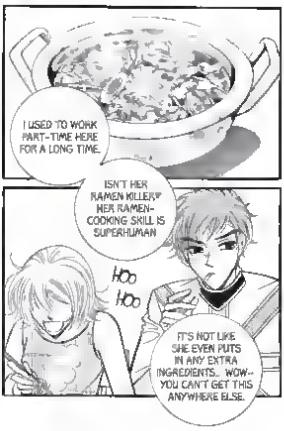
SHE S THE ONLY ONE...!
LET'S REST FOR A SEC.

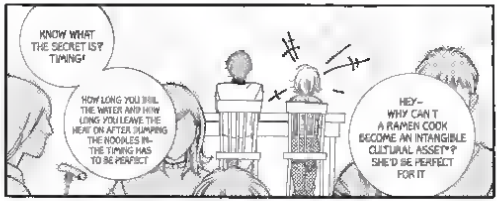
HEY YOO! YOU HUNGRY? SHOULDN'T WE GET SOMETHING TO EAT?
ALRIGHT! THE RAMEN'S ON ME.
OOOOHHHH- YOU TAKE OFF WITH A BIG STASH OR SOMETHIN'?
NOPE. ZIP

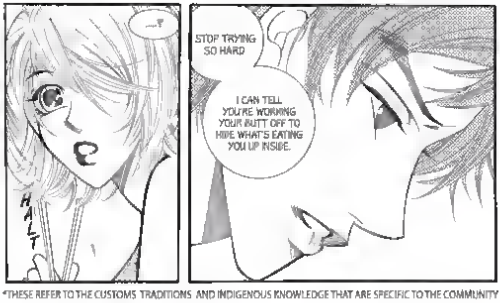
DON'T GIVE ME THAT FACE. I'LL BUY YOU RAMEN AT LEAST
충무분식
EXCUSE ME. CAN WE HAVE SOME RAMEN?
CREAK~
PLEASE COME IN.
HOW MANY...?
BUT I DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY IT'LL HAVE TO BE ON THE HOUSE.
WHA..?
PZZZT


MY GOODNESS, WHO DO WE HAVE HERE?
WHAP
IS THAT YOU, YOOJI?


BUT UP OK?
THANK YOU!!
HEH HEH


I USED TO WORK PART-TIME HERE FOR A LONG TIME.
ISN'T HER RAMEN KILLER? HER RAMEN-COOKING SKILL IS SUPERHUMAN
HOO HOO
IT'S NOT LIKE SHE EVEN PUTS IN ANY EXTRA INGREDIENTS.. WOW-- YOU CAN'T GET THIS ANYWHERE ELSE.


KNOW WHAT THE SECRET IS? TIMING!
HOW LONG YOU BOIL THE WATER AND HOW LONG YOU LEAVE THE HEAT ON AFTER DUMPING THE NOODLES IN— THE TIMING HAS TO BE PERFECT
HEY— WHY CAN'T A RAMEN COOK BECOME AN INTANGIBLE CULTURAL ASSET*? SHE'D BE PERFECT FOR IT



*THESE REFER TO THE CUSTOMS, TRADITIONS, AND INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE THAT ARE SPECIFIC TO THE COMMUNITY

DRIP

YOU COULD'VE PRETENDED NOT TO NOTICE.
IDIOT
SNIFF
SNIFF
DON'T CRY INTO YOUR RAMEN- IT'LL GET SALTY

YOOI AND LIDA
ARE TWINS?!

YOU MEAN YOOI KANG IS THE CHAIRMAN'S GRANDDAUGHTER, TOO?
YES THAT CHILD AND LIDA...
ARE BOTH MY DAUGHTERS!
WAIT... THEN...
IF WE DON'T FIND YOOI LIDA WILL...?!

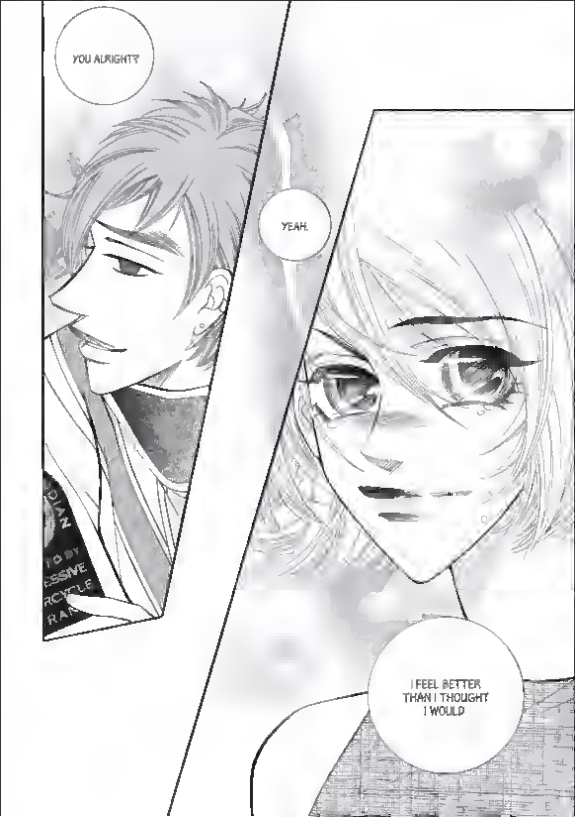
WE MUST FIND YOOI
IN ORDER TO SAVE LIDA !!
PAT

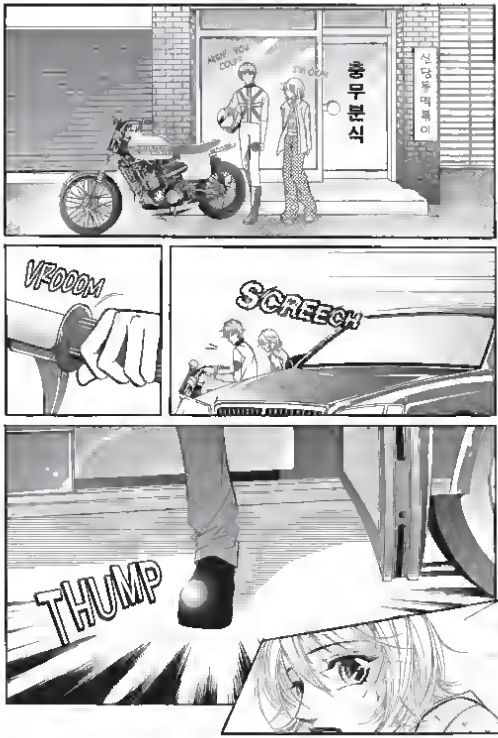
WAIT.. WAIT!
TAK
TAK
EVERY SECOND COUNTS!
DO YOU HAVE A PLAN?
I DON'T KNOW!
BUT WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING!
NO MATTER WHAT!
I KNOW A WAY!
IT'S SOMETHING THAT JUST POPPED INTO MY HEAD BUT..

IF LIDA... I MEAN Y...YOOI HAS THE PHONE THAT I GAVE HER...
WE CAN LOCATE HER...

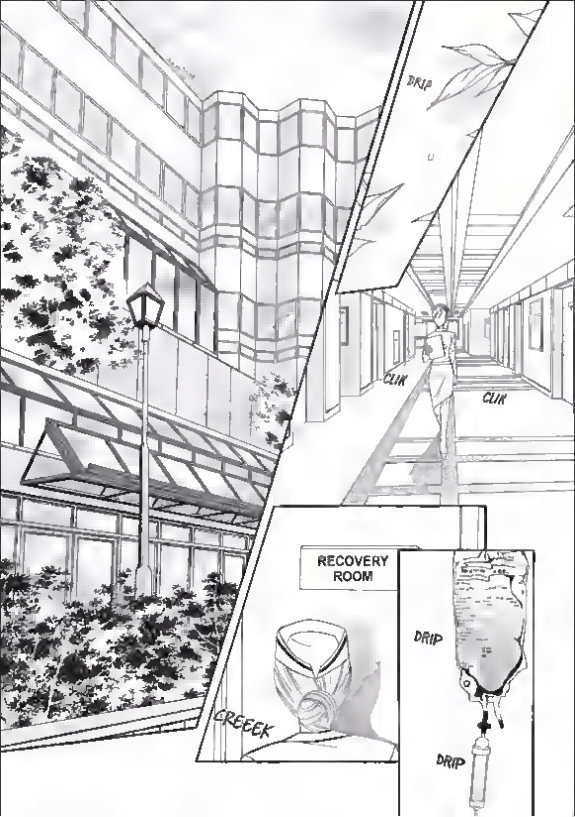
PAT
IF YOU WANT TO CRY
CRY ON ME.
I'LL LEND YOU MY SHOULDER.
WHAT'LL PEOPLE THINK OF ME IF I'VE GOT SOME SNIVELING GIRL NEXT TO ME?
THEY'LL THINK I MADE YOU CRY
NO
I'M NEVER LEANING ON A GUY'S SHOULDER AGAIN.
PHOOSH
THEN STOP CRYING

PHANG
I'M NOT GONNA CRY
I'M BACK TO WHERE I USED TO BE.
YOU'VE GOTTA KEEP BUSY IN A PLACE LIKE THIS. THERE'S NO TIME FOR CRYING
I HAVE TO GET REAL

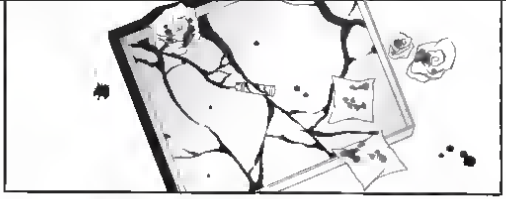

YOU ALRIGHT?
YEAH.
I FEEL BETTER THAN I THOUGHT I WOULD


충무분식
VROOOM
SCREECH
THUMP

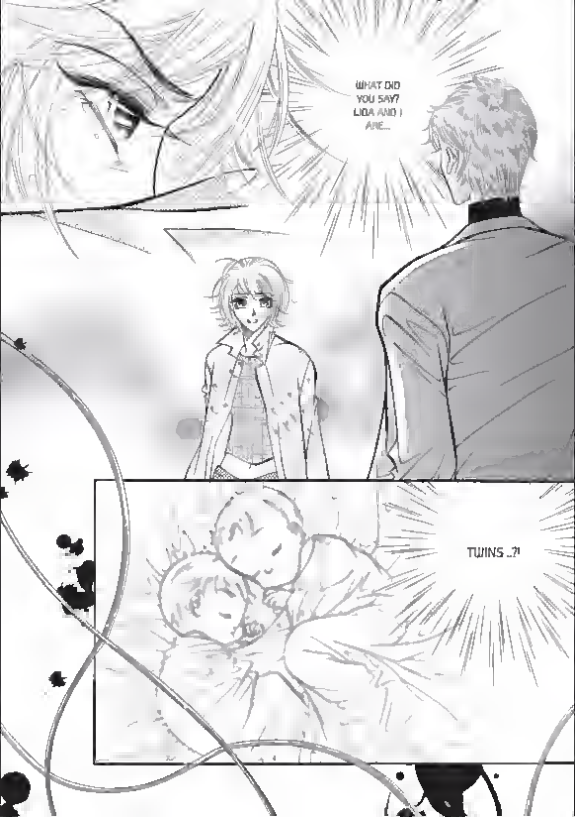
ILYA..?

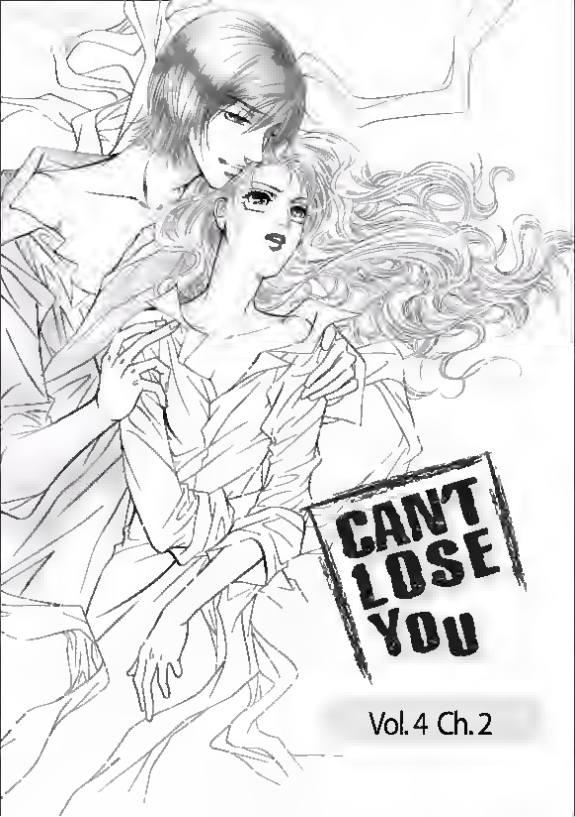

DRIP
CLIK
CLIK
RECOVERY ROOM
DRIP
CREEEK
DRIP

PSHOOT



SIGH
THANK GOODNESS
GOOD WORK.
HUFF


WHAT DID YOU SAY? LIDA AND I ARE...
TWINS ..?!

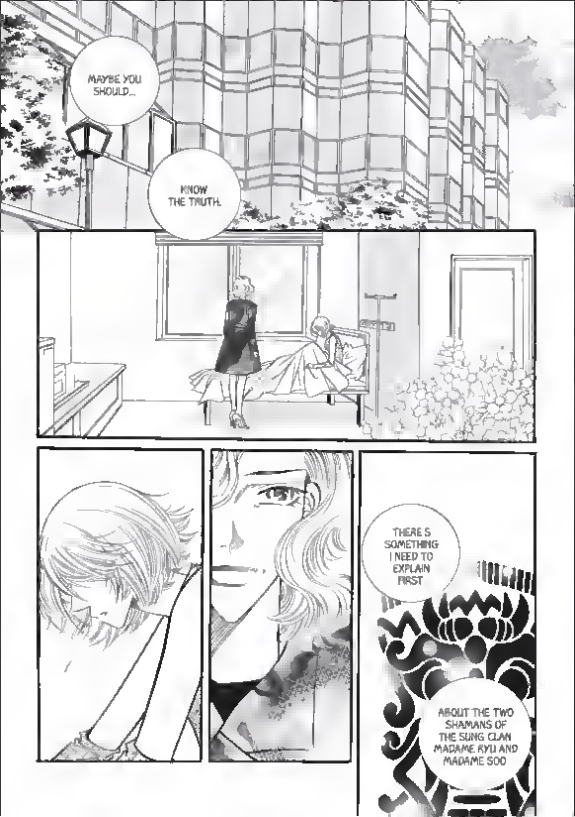


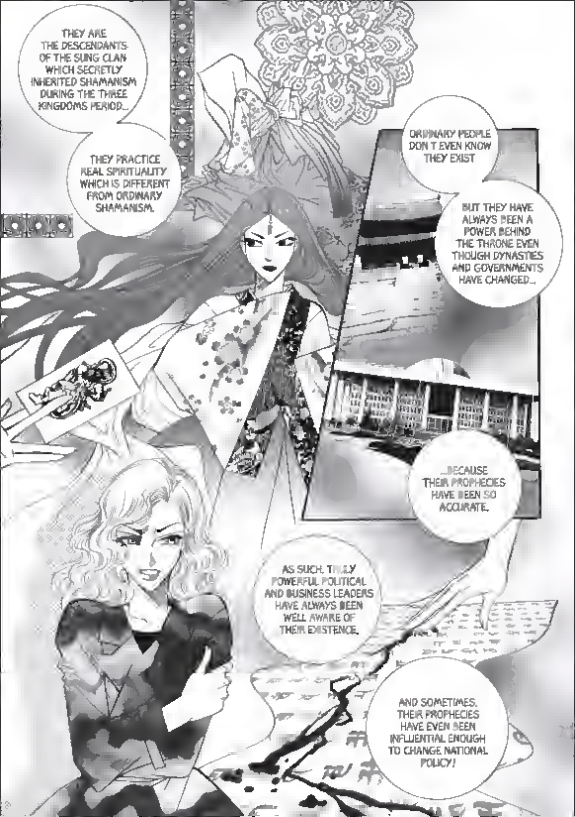
Vol. 4 Ch. 2

20. THE PROPHECY

I KNOW YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT YOOL
BUT LEAVE HER ALONE FOR NOW
YOU CAN'T HELP THIS SITUATION

CLIK-
CLIK-
EXCUSE US...
FOR A MOMENT


MAYBE YOU SHOULD...
KNOW THE TRUTH.
THERE'S SOMETHING I NEED TO EXPLAIN FIRST
ABOUT THE TWO SHAMANS OF THE SUNG CLAN MADAME RYU AND MADAME SOO


THEY ARE THE DESCENDANTS OF THE SUNG CLAN WHICH SECRETLY INHERITED SHAMANISM DURING THE THREE KINGDOMS PERIOD...
THEY PRACTICE REAL SPIRITUALITY WHICH IS DIFFERENT FROM ORDINARY SHAMANISM.
ORDINARY PEOPLE DON'T EVEN KNOW THEY EXIST
BUT THEY HAVE ALWAYS BEEN A POWER BEHIND THE THRONE EVEN THOUGH DYNASTIES AND GOVERNMENTS HAVE CHANGED...
...BECAUSE THEIR PROPHECIES HAVE BEEN SO ACCURATE.
AS SUCH, TRULY POWERFUL POLITICAL AND BUSINESS LEADERS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN WELL AWARE OF THEIR EXISTENCE.
AND SOMETIMES, THEIR PROPHECIES HAVE EVEN BEEN INFLUENTIAL ENOUGH TO CHANGE NATIONAL POLICY!

TWO PROPHETESSES ARE ALWAYS BORN INTO THE SUNG CLAN.
ONE BLIND ONE MUTE...
THE BLIND SHAMANESS SEES UNALTERABLE RIVER OF DESTINY...
AND THE MUTE SHAMANESS TELLS THE UNFIXED VARIABLES OF THE INDEFINITE THAT CAN CHANGE THE FLOW OF THAT FATE.
BUT EVEN IF YOU FOLLOW THE WORDS OF THE MUTE SHAMANESS IT DOESN'T NECESSARILY MEAN YOU WILL BE ABLE TO CHANGE YOUR FATE.
THE FUTURE CAN'T EVER REALLY BE FORETOLD.
STILL, THEY THROW PEOPLE SCRAPS OF HOPE AND DESPAIR WITH IMPUNITY, AND WAIT TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS...
THEN THEY DECIDE UPON SALVATION OR DESTRUCTION OF THE FATES OF COUNTLESS PEOPLE.

WHAT DO THOSE PEOPLE HAVE TO DO WITH ME?
WHEN YOU TWO WERE BORN THE SISTERS PROPHESIED YOUR FATES
IT WAS A VERY SPECIAL CASE BUT YOUR GRANDFATHER HAD ENOUGH MONEY AND POWER TO LEARN ABOUT THE FUTURE OF HIS SUCCESSOR.
BUT...!
SHAAAA

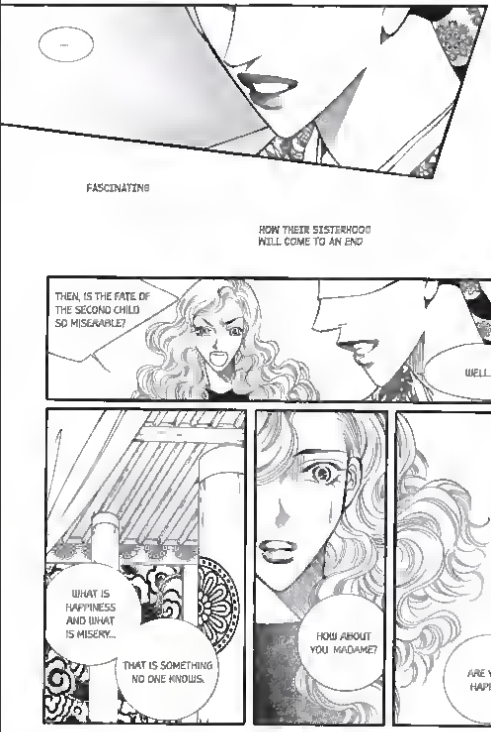
HUFF
SHAAAA
YOU ARE..!
MMMM~!

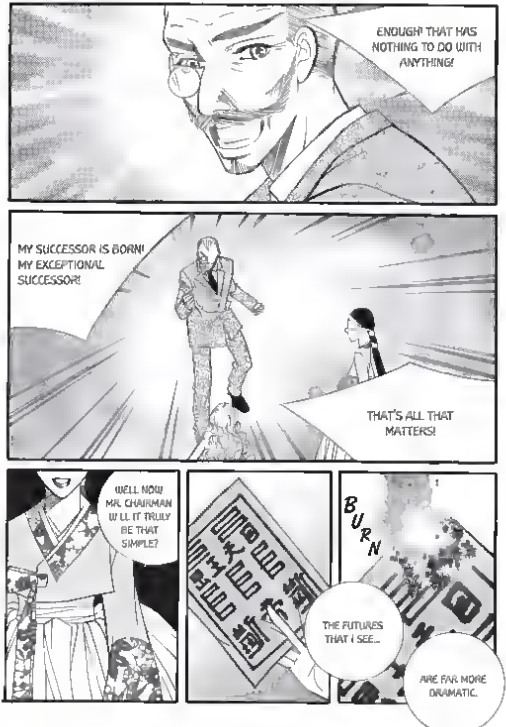
DO YOU KNOW ME?
CERTAIN PEOPLE KNOW WHO YOU ARE.
MADAME SUNG RYU.
YES. I KNOW ABOUT YOU AS WELL. SO I SUPPOSE THAT IS ONLY FAIR.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I WANTED TO SEE YOU.
I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU. DO YOU WANT TO HEAR IT?
IT WAS 17 YEARS AGO. IT'S ABOUT THE TWIN SISTERS FOR WHOM I MADE A PROPHECY...

THE FIRST CHILD
SHE HAS THE FORTUNE OF A CONQUEROR.
THIS IS... THE MARK OF A QUEEN
WHAT DO YOU MEAN A QUEEN?
OF COURSE WE DON'T HAVE A MONARCHY SO IT DOESN'T MEAN SHE WILL BECOME AN ACTUAL QUEEN...
BUT IF SHE HAD BEEN BORN LONG AGO SHE WOULD HAVE SOAKED THE LAND WITH THE BLOOD OF WAR.
SHE WOULD HAVE BEEN A GREAT FEMALE CONQUEROR OF THE WORLD WHO WOULD HAVE MADE HER ENEMIES FALL TO THEIR KNEES BEFORE HER.

EVEN IN THE PRESENT AGE, SHE WILL WIELD WEALTH AND POWER JUST LIKE A QUEEN.
SHE WILL RISE TO THE TOP IN EVERYTHING SHE WILL COMMAND THEIR WILLS AND SHE WILL DECIDE THE FATES OF MANY.
THEN THIS CHILD WILL BE MY SUCCESSOR!
AND.
THIS CHILD...
THE YOUNGER CHILD...
AH-KA..! HOW ILL FATED...

THE FATE OF THE YOUNGER CHILD HAS BEEN DEVOURED BY THE FIRST CHILD
LIKE THE FLOWER THAT HAS BLOOMED IN THE SHADE... SHE WILL SUFFER, LOSE, AND SACRIFICE BECAUSE OF HER SISTER.
BUT... OOOHH, WHAT IS THIS?
I HAVE NEVER SEEN SUCH A THING BEFORE.
THERE IS SOMETHING ELSE THAT CROSSES BETWEEN THEIR DISPARATE FATES..
COULD IT BE ANOTHER STAR?


...
FASCINATING
HOW THEIR SISTERHOOD WILL COME TO AN END
THEN, IS THE FATE OF THE SECOND CHILD SO MISERABLE?
WELL...
WHAT IS HAPPINESS AND WHAT IS MISERY...
THAT IS SOMETHING NO ONE KNOWS.
HOW ABOUT YOU MADAME?
ARE YOU HAPPY?


ENOUGH! THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ANYTHING!
MY SUCCESSOR IS BORN! MY EXCEPTIONAL SUCCESSOR!
THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS!
WELL NOW MR. CHAIRMAN U. U. IT TRULY BE THAT SIMPLE?
BURN
THE FUTURES THAT I SEE...
ARE FAR MORE DRAMATIC.

IF THIS CHILD GROWS UP IN THIS WAY...
SHE WILL KILL HER GRANDFATHER.

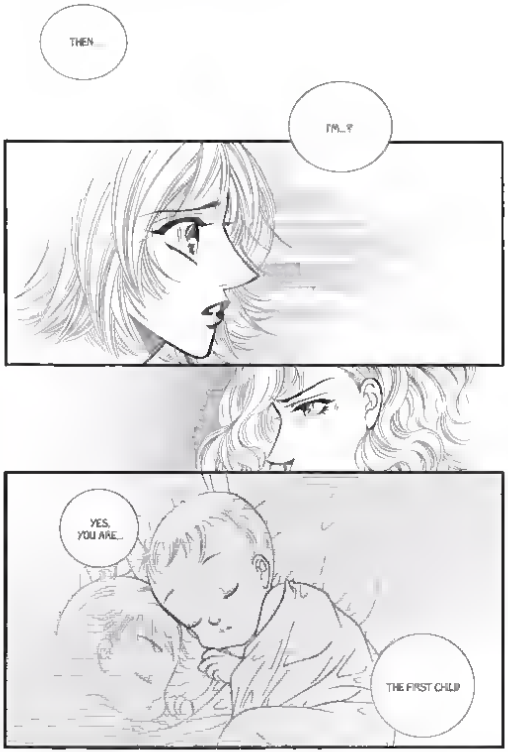
WHERE...
AND HOW... THESE THINGS I DO NOT KNOW.
BUT WHEN SHE TURNS 19 YEARS OLD YOU WILL DIE AT HER HANDS, CHAIRMAN YOO

THE CHAIRMAN LOST HIS SENSES
AND HIS FEAR BECAME AN UNQUENCHABLE FIRE THAT CONSUMED HIM
HE WASN'T BEING COMPLETELY UNREASONABLE. WHEN HE WAS A POOR LITTLE BOY POLISHING SHOES ON A STREET CORNER...
SHOE SHINE
A SUNG CLAN SHAMANESS WHO WAS PASSING BY
STOPPED AND PROPHESIED THAT HE WOULD BE THE RICHEST MAN IN KOREA ONE DAY UNBELIEVABLE, RIGHT?
BUT THE CHAIRMAN SAW THE RESULT OF HER PROPHECY HIMSELF...
HIS BELIEF IN THE SUNG CLAN'S PROPHECIES WAS CLOSE TO BEING BLIND FAITH.
KILL HER!

THAT MONSTER!
KILL THAT CURSED CHILD!

WHAT SAVED YOU AT THAT TIME...
WAS MADAME SOO
WHAT I SEE... IS A SMALL GAP. A SMALL POSSIBILITY
THAT COULD CHANGE THE COURSE OF FATE...

ABANDON THE FIRST CHILD AND LET HER GROW UP IN SUFFERING AND INCREDIBLE POVERTY.
SO THAT SHE CAN LOSE THE FIERCE SPIRIT WITH WHICH SHE WAS BORN.
TREAT THE YOUNGER CHILD AS THE OLDER ONE AND BRING HER UP AS YOUR SUCCESSOR.
MERELY CATCHING A GLIMPSE OF ONE'S FATE IN ADVANCE CAN BE ANOTHER CAUSE TO CHANGE ITS END.
WE WILL CHANGE THE LIVES OF THOSE TWO CHILDREN THAT THEIR FATES HAVE ASSIGNED THEM BY COMPLETELY PULLING THEM UP FROM THEIR ROOTS.


THEN...
I'M...?
YES,
YOU ARE...
THE FIRST CHILD

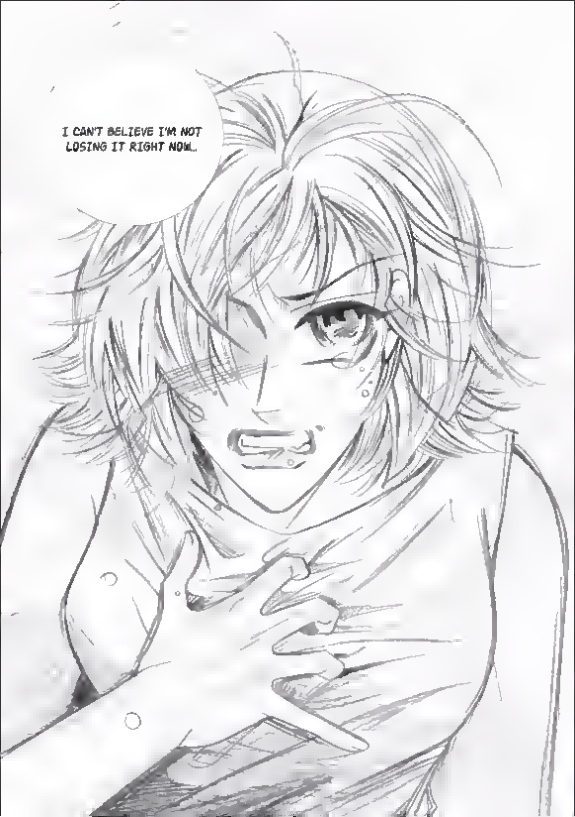
I CHOSE A DEVOTED PERSON TO RAISE YOU
SOMEONE WHO COULD BE YOUR ADOPTED FATHER, WATCH OVER YOU UNTIL YOU GREW UP AND THEN LEAVE.
SOMEONE WHO COULD CONTINUOUSLY GUARD AND WATCH OVER YOU EVEN AFTERWARD
IT CAN'T BE..
RIGHT YOUR FATHER, JINHO KANG.
THAT'S HIM.

D...
DAD...

EVERYTHING WAS A LIE.
EVERYTHING ABOUT ME...
YOOI...
DAD AND THE MEMORIES... I MUST LOOK LIKE SUCH AN IDIOT
ALL I EVER DREAMED ABOUT WAS THE DAY HE WOULD COME BACK AND WE WOULD BE A FAMILY AGAIN... NO MATTER WHAT...
I... REALLY TRIED SO HARD...
TRIED NOT TO LOSE HOPE. TRIED NOT TO BE DISCOURAGED...
I DID EVERYTHING I COULD TO SMILE EVERYDAY...

BUT WHAT WAS IT ALL WORTH IN THE END...?
YOU!..!
DON'T TOUCH ME!

IT WAS JUST UNTIL YOU TURNED 19! IF WE MADE IT PAST THAT OKAY...
AND IF MADAME RYU'S PROPHECY DIDN'T COME TRUE, WE WERE GOING TO MAKE IT ALL UP TO YOU!
AND THAT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE YOU!
WHAT THE HELL'S THE USE NOW?!
I...
I... I...


I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M NOT LOSING IT RIGHT NOW…

*TRADITIONAL KOREAN DRESS

Wanny's chit chat

When I introduced the Oedipus play in volume 3, I gave a hint of freshadowing, but the motif for *"Can't Lose You"* didn't come from the Oedipus legend but the Perseus legend. First of all, it was the grandfather who abandoned the child after learning the prophecy that the child would kill him... And there are other points. But since I couldn't find any play about Perseus, I quietly changed it to the Oedipus play while writing the script.

Now that I think about it, there are many such stories in Greek tragedy. (Maybe the Greeks were fatalists.) It's very different from the Korean folktale "Bonduegi" where the child who was also abandoned at birth comes back not to harm the parent but to fulfill her filial duty by sacrificing herself.

Although there have been many legends in both Eastern and Western societies for ages about twins, there are still many ways for them to develop. By the way, Wanny's *"Wanna be Happy?!"* and *"First"* also portray twins. Mmm... Maybe I like this theme....

21. CROSSED FATES

BUT...
HOW COULD YOU...
HOW COULD YOU BE SO CRUEL!
HUMAN GREED ALWAYS COMPLICATES MATTERS.
YOU...!
WHY DON'T YOU FEEL GUILTY FOR PLAYING GOD?
IF YOU'D ONLY KEPT THAT PROPHECY TO YOURSELF... SHE... SHE COULD'VE...!

I DON'T SEE THESE THINGS BECAUSE I WANT TO SEE THEM.
THIS IS MERELY PUNISHMENT FOR MY MANY SINS IN A PREVIOUS LIFE.
PERHAPS WHAT I SAW WAS ONLY PART OF THAT FATE.
WHAM
HUFF
HUFF

HUH?
HUFF
YOU...
YOU'VE GOT TO GET AWAY FROM HERE!

THE CHAIRMAN HAS LEARNED THE TRUTH AND IS LOOKING FOR YOU!
WASN'T MY FATE SUPPOSED TO CHANGE WHEN I ABANDONED THAT CHILD?
EVEN WE TRIED SO HARD TO KEEP HER AWAY FROM ME... YET, IN NO TIME AT ALL, SHE'D SNEAKED RIGHT BACK IN TO MY LIFE DISGUISED AS MY GRANDDAUGHTER!
HE'S GONE TOTALLY OFF THE DEEP END! I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE'LL DO TO YOU!
WE SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN RID OF THAT MONSTER BACK THEN, 17 YEARS AGO!
CRRNNK
THUMP

D...
DAD ?
I'M SORRY...
I LIED TO YOU...

I'M SORRY
I LIED TO YOU...!
SECRETARY KANG
HURRY AND
TAKE YOO! TO.
AH!
WOOSH

YOO!!
SLAM
JONAH GENERAL HOSPITAL
YOO!!
THE WORLD SEEMS STRANGE
IT LOOKS LIKE CHUNKS OF HARDENED PLASTER, SO WHITE AND DEAD THAT THEY MIGHT CRUMBLE AWAY.
A CHUNK OF PLASTER... IS CLOGGING UP MY THROAT
I CAN'T BREATHE.

I CAN'T BREATHE!

THE REASON WHY I'M TELLING YOU THIS, YOUNG MAN...
IS BECAUSE YOUR FATE IS INEXTRICABLY INTERTWINED WITH THAT OF THOSE SISTERS.
YOU WERE SPECIAL TO ME.
I SAW YOUR FATE WHEN YOU WERE BORN.
BUT... IT WAS THE FIRST TIME
THAT I COULDN'T SEE THE END OF SOMEONE'S FATE.
YOU HAVE... TWO FATES.
EVEN I COULDN'T TELL WHICH PATH YOU WOULD TAKE.

TAK
HAAA
TWO...
FATES?
PEOPLE ARE ONLY SUPPOSED TO HAVE ONE DESTINED PARTNER.
BUT YOU ARE DEEPLY ENTANGLED WITH TWO...
DEPENDING ON THE CHOICE YOU MAKE, NOT ONLY YOUR FATE BUT THEIRS ALSO WILL CHANGE THEIR TRAJECTORIES AND CONCLUDE DIFFERENTLY
RUSTLE

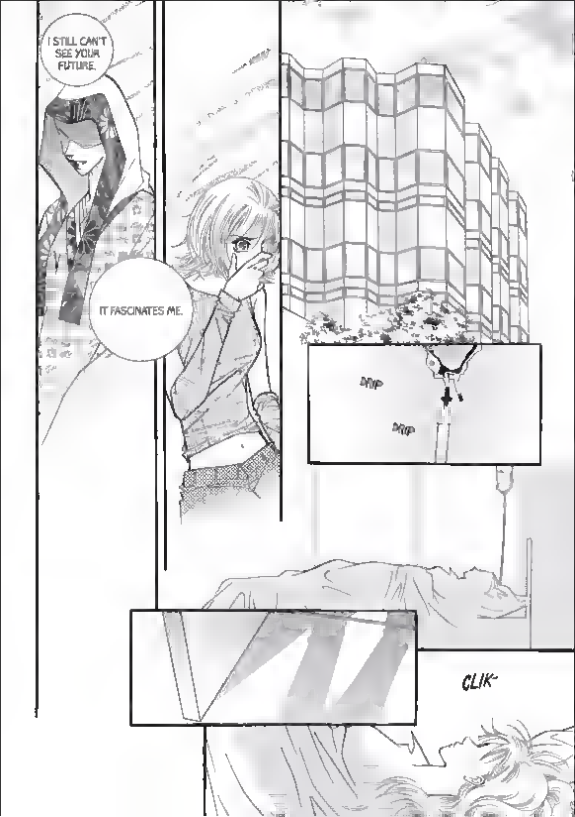
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?!
BAON
I KNOW WHERE YOUR HEART IS HEADED RIGHT NOW YOUNG MAN
BUT THAT GIRL... IF YOU SELECT THE GIRL TO WHOM YOU HAVE GIVEN YOUR HEART YOU WILL BE MAKING A GREAT SACRIFICE.
YOU WILL LOSE EVERYTHING YOU HAVE NOW AND EVERYTHING THAT YOU WOULD HAVE GAINED IN THE FUTURE!
EVEN THOUGH YOU WOULD HAVE BECOME THE PRESIDENT OF THIS COUNTRY IF YOU HAD TAKEN THE OTHER PATH!

WHY...?
BECAUSE THAT CHILD MAKES YOU DEFY YOUR TRUE NATURE.
YOU ARE A COLD-BLOODED PERSON...
THE KIND WHO'S NOT AFRAID TO HURT PEOPLE.
EVEN IF IT IS YOURSELF

THAT CHILD IS LIKE A DAM THAT BLOCKS THE FLOW OF YOUR INNATE CHARACTER.
NO TO YOU, SHE'S A LIGHT IN DARKNESS.
YOUR ONLY SOURCE OF WARMTH, BUT
WHATEVER EXPRESSION WE USE, YOU AND SHE ARE FUNDAMENTALLY DIFFERENT CREATURES. AND YOU WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO FULLY POSSESS HER.
THAT IS WHY YOU CRAVE AND DESIRE HER! BUT...!
RUSTLE~
WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOU IN THE END?

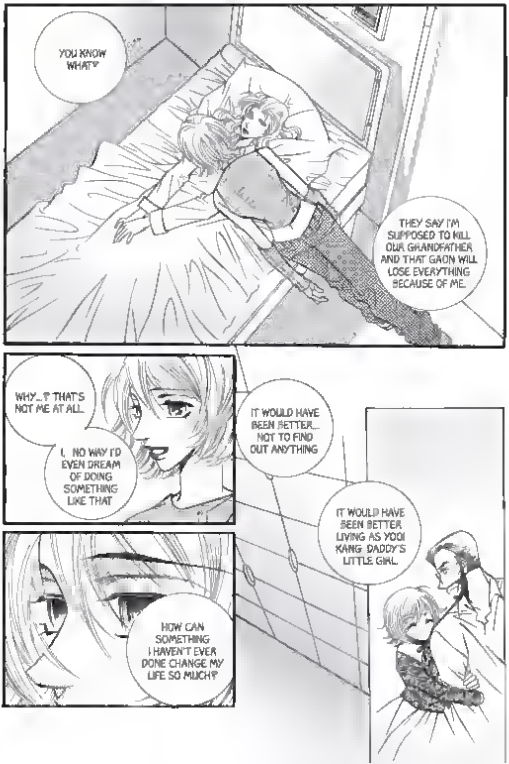
YOU WANT HER BECAUSE HER NATURE IS DIFFERENT FROM YOURS...
BUT YOU WILL BECOME A DIFFERENT PERSON IF YOU CHOOSE HER.
...WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE IT WOULD BE LIKE?
WILL IT STILL BE YOU THEN?
WILL YOU STILL WANT HER? EVEN THEN...
THUMP
WILL YOU BE HAPPY?
WHEN YOU SUDDENLY COME TO YOUR SENSES.
THUMP
WON'T YOU START LOATHING HER?

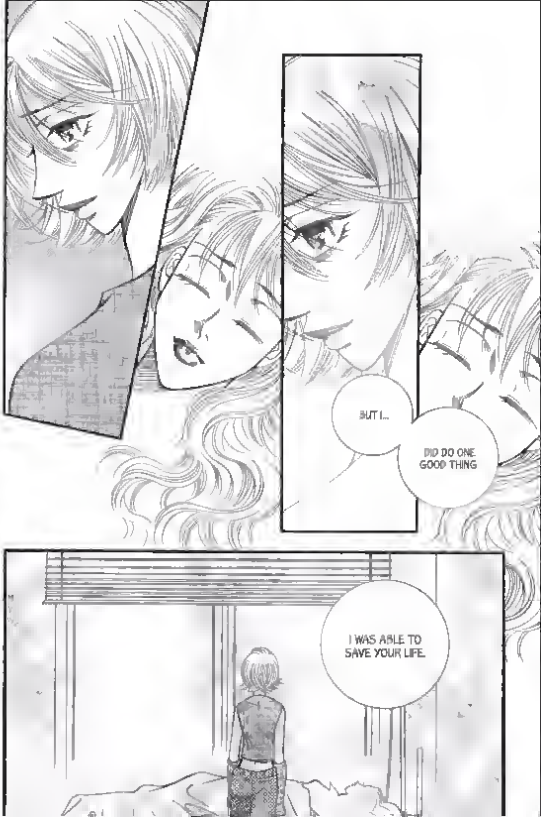
WHY...
WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME THESE THINGS?
I JUST WANT YOU TO MAKE A DECISION YOU WON'T REGRET
SHOULD I GIVE UP ON HER?
IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?


I STILL CAN'T SEE YOUR FUTURE.
IT FASCINATES ME.
DRIP
DRIP
CLIK-

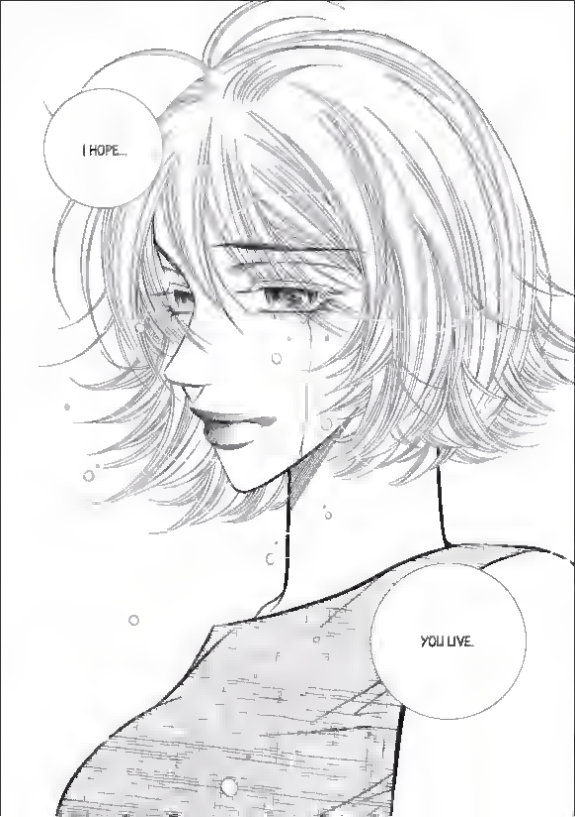
PHOO
SHRRRP

HUFF
IF I'D KNOWN YOU WERE MY YOUNGER SISTER...
I WOULD'VE AT LEAST TRIED TO GET TO KNOW YOU BETTER.


YOU KNOW WHAT?
THEY SAY I'M SUPPOSED TO KILL OUR GRANDFATHER AND THAT GAON WILL LOSE EVERYTHING BECAUSE OF ME.
WHY...? THAT'S NOT ME AT ALL.
I, NO WAY I'D EVEN DREAM OF DOING SOMETHING LIKE THAT
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER... NOT TO FIND OUT ANYTHING
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER LIVING AS YOOI KANG: DADDY'S LITTLE GIRL.
HOW CAN SOMETHING I HAVEN'T EVER DONE CHANGE MY LIFE SO MUCH?


BUT I...
DID DO ONE GOOD THING
I WAS ABLE TO SAVE YOUR LIFE.

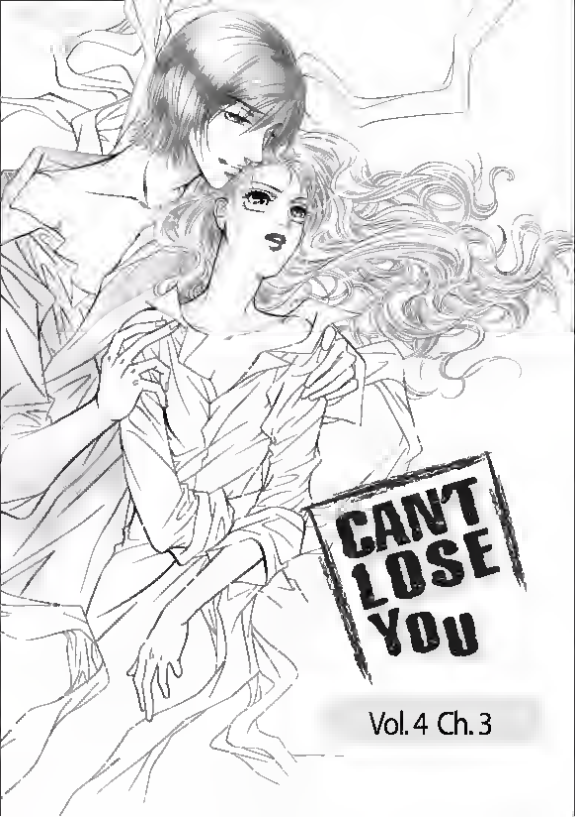
DRIP
DRIP
DRIP
I HOPE YOU LIVE THROUGH THIS


I HOPE...
YOU LIVE.

TAK
COME WITH ME! NOW!
LET GO OF ME!
EXIT→
WHO AM I TO YOU, ANYWAY?
YOU'RE NOT EVEN MY REAL DAD! SO DON'T ACT LIKE YOU ARE..!

WHUMP
LISTEN TO ME...!
PLEASE...

IT'S ALMOST TIME.
WHO ARE WE WAITING FOR EXACTLY?
THE ONLY PERSON WHO CAN HELP YOU NOW
I'VE GUARDED YOU UNTIL NOW WITH THE CHAIRMAN'S TACIT APPROVAL.
FROM NOW ON, YOU MUST WARD OFF HIS GAZE AS WELL.
AND THAT'S BEYOND MY CAPABILITY



Vol. 4 Ch. 3

22. RUNAWAY

WAIT!
DON'T RUN AWAY!

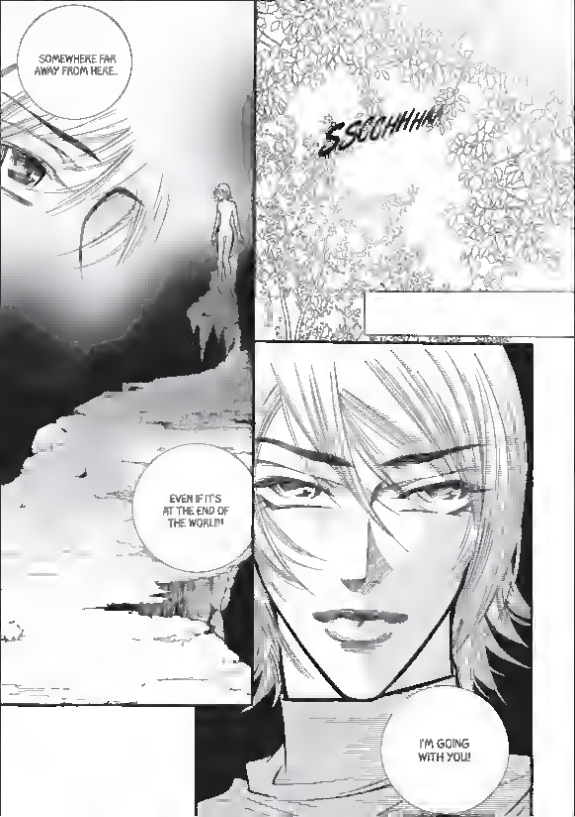
SOB...
WHUMP
PLEASE...
NO MORE...!

I TOLD YOU!
THAT THE ONE THING I WON'T FORGIVE YOU FOR IS LEAVING ME.!
DON'T YOU...
HATE ME NOW?

I DO HATE YOU!
I HATE YOU SO MUCH THAT I MIGHT DIE...!
SOB
SOB
I HATE YOU...
SOB

I DON'T WANT TO KILL MY GRANDFATHER.
THAT SELFISH, TWISTED OLD BASTARD!
HE DESERVES TO DIE. THAT PSYCHO!
BUT HE'S STILL MY GRANDFATHER.
WAAA COMICS
.....
THAT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE. I KNOW YOU.
YOU CAN'T KILL ANYONE. LET ALONE YOUR OWN GRANDFATHER.
NOT ALL OF MADAME RYU'S PROPHECIES COME TRUE!
OEDIPUS...

HUH?
THE PLAY WE SAW TOGETHER
THEY TRIED EVERYTHING TO AVOID THEIR FATE...
BUT IN THE END IT ALL CAME TRUE.
SO YOU THINK IT WILL COME TRUE FOR YOU AS WELL...
NO, I'M DIFFERENT
OEDIPUS' PROPHECY CAME TRUE BECAUSE HE DIDN'T KNOW THE TRUTH OF THAT PROPHECY
AND BECAUSE HE DIDN'T KNOW WHO HIS REAL PARENTS WERE.
BUT I... KNOW NOW SO I CAN STEER CLEAR OF IT
STEER CLEAR OF IT?
I'M GONNA HIDE.
SO THAT THE PROPHECY CAN NEVER COME TRUE.


SOMEWHERE FAR AWAY FROM HERE.
SSCCHHHH
EVEN IF IT'S AT THE END OF THE WORLD!!
I'M GOING WITH YOU!!

I'M GOING WITH YOU
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHERE YOU'RE GOING!
WHY WOULD SOMEONE LIKE YOU... YOU HAVE...
I DON'T NEED ANYTHING ELSE.
I JUST NEED YOU!
DON'T GIVE EVERYTHING UP JUST FOR ME!
I'M NOT YOUR FIANCEE... I'M NOT LIZA...

I'M DOING THIS FOR ME--SO THAT I CAN GO ON!
SO YOU CAN LIVE WITHOUT ME, FINE. WELL, I CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT YOU!
WHEN YOU DISAPPEARED AT THE ENGAGEMENT PARTY
THE WORST WASN'T THAT YOU WEREN'T REALLY LIDA. NO THE WORST BLOW WAS THAT YOU HAD WALKED OUT OF MY LIFE.
IT'S YOU ONLY YOU!
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING WITHOUT YOU!
DAMN! I DON'T KNOW WHAT'LL HAPPEN LATER.
WHAT I KNOW RIGHT NOW IS THAT IT'S HARD EVEN TO BREATHE WITHOUT YOU!

I DON'T CARE WHO YOU ARE.
I LOVE YOU!
TO THE POINT THAT I CAN'T EVEN CONTROL THE STRANGER I'VE BECOME...
I LOVE YOU, YOOI KANG...
HIS VOICE GRATED WITH PAIN

IF I'D HEARD THOSE WORDS JUST A FEW HOURS AGO
I WOULD'VE BEEN HAPPY
BUT RIGHT NOW I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO I AM!
MY NAME. MY IDENTITY...
MY WHOLE LIFE UNTIL NOW'S BEEN A LIE!
IT'S TOO HARD RIGHT NOW FOR ME TO THINK THINGS OVER...TO DEAL WITH ANYTHING
I'M JUST A COWARD WHO WANTS TO LOSE MYSELF. I JUST WANNA RUN AWAY FROM ALL THIS
I'M GOING TO RUIN YOUR LIFE...

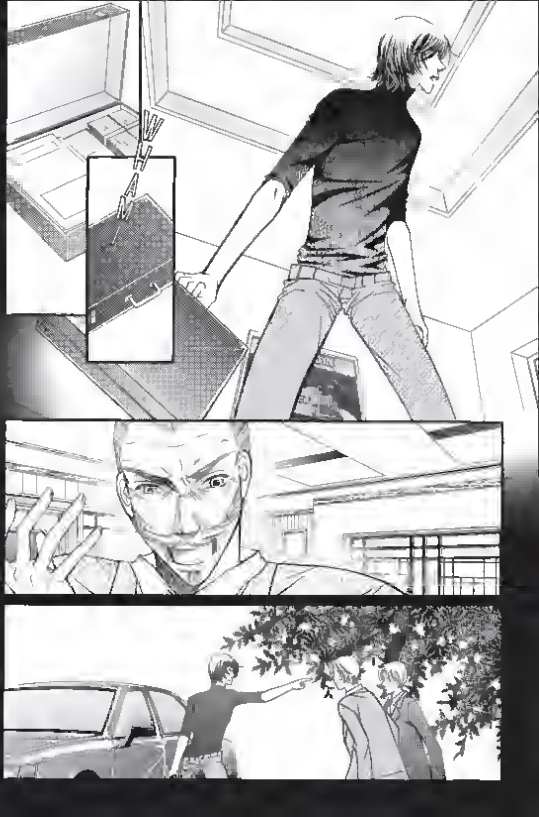
WHUMP
IT DOESN'T MATTER...!
IF YOU RUN AWAY I'LL GO WITH YOU
AND IF YOU'RE IN PAIN, I'LL HURT WITH YOU!
YOU'RE ALL THAT I NEED
A CHOICE? DON'T BULLSHIT ME.
MADAME RYU
NOTHING ELSE MATTERS.

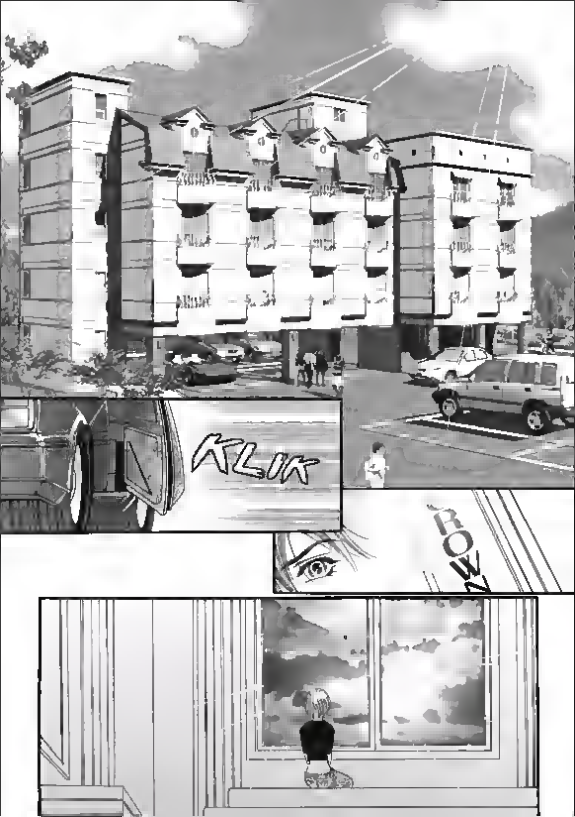
I'VE ALREADY MADE MY CHOICE I DON'T CARE ABOUT OTHER CHOICES
I WON'T CHANGE MY MIND EVEN IF IT MEANS GIVING UP THE ENTIRE WORLD
I KNEW YOU WOULD DO THAT FOR HER.
RUSTLE
EEP
SHE MUST HIDE BEYOND THE REACH OF THE CHAIRMAN.
GAON, DO YOU THINK YOU CAN TAKE CARE OF THAT?
IF YOU GIVE ME JUST A LITTLE TIME, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET SOME MONEY AND HAVE A PLACE READY
THEN GO AND WAIT HERE, YOOL
AGREE ON A TIME TO MEET WITH GAON AND GO
AND BE CAREFUL

I HAVE TO GET BACK
BEFORE HE NOTICES THAT I'M MISSING
CRUNCH...
...DAD
DAD?
ARE YOU CALLING ME DAD?

YOU WERE A GOOD DAUGHTER.
TOO GOOD NOT TO LOVE.
I'M SORRY I CAME BACK TO YOU LIKE THIS.
SSCHHHAAA

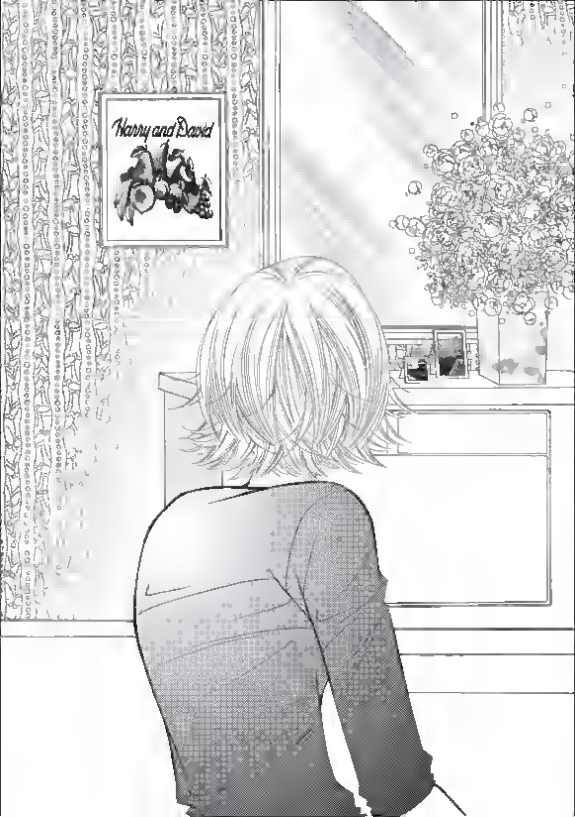
KOUTE YA
CROWN MOTEL
KOOM 699


WHAM


KLIK
BOM

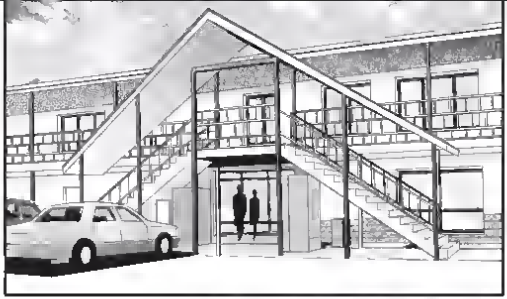
CLIMP
CLIMP
CLIMP
HUFF.
605
HUFF-
CLIK
SCREE...

THUNK
THANKS...
FOR COMING


Harry and David

YOO.

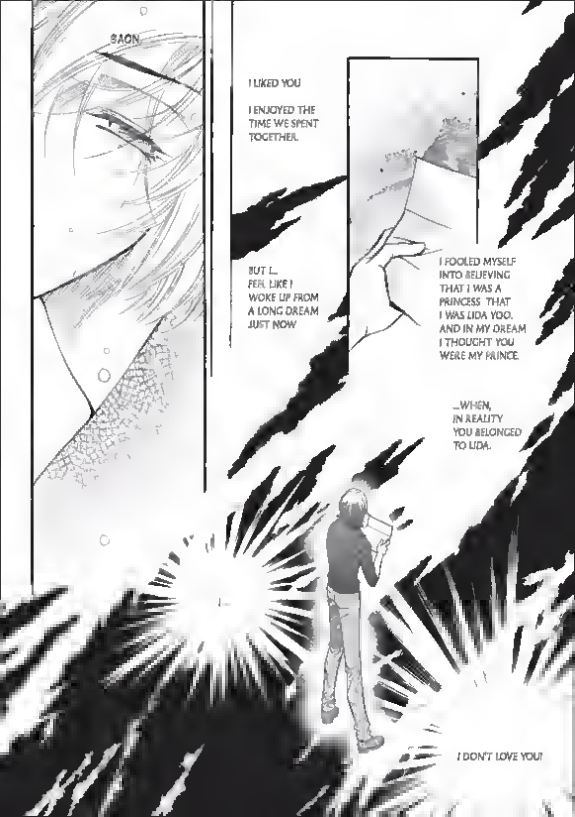
TAKE ME AWAY
SOMEPLACE WHERE NO ONE CAN FIND ME.
AHH..
AHHHH!
YOO!

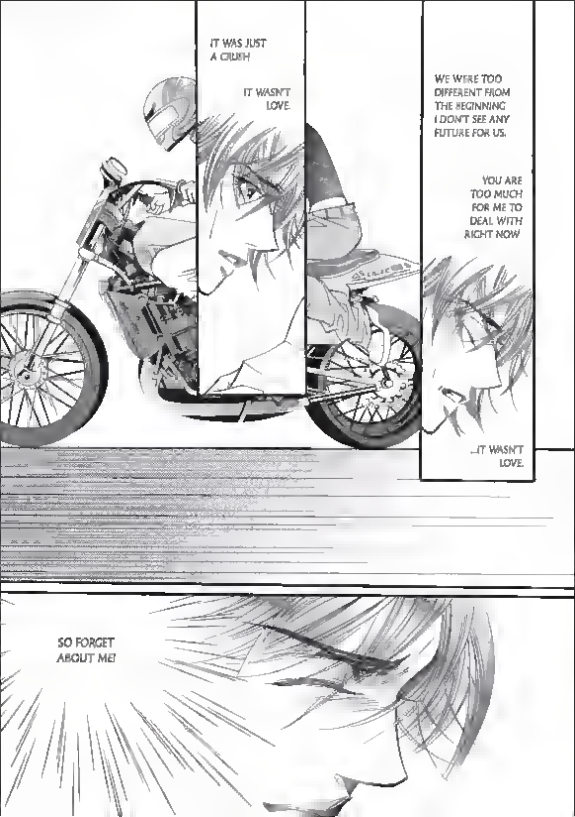


VROOOM

ARE YOU SURE.
THIS IS OKAY?
YEAH.

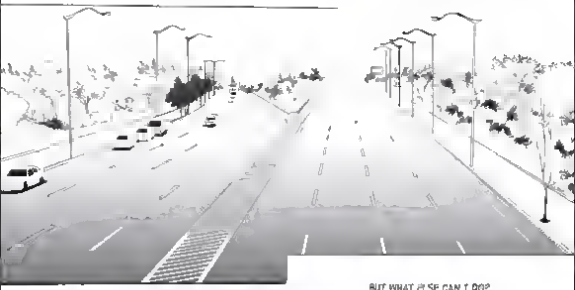
YEAH.


BAON
I LIKED YOU
I ENJOYED THE TIME WE SPENT TOGETHER.
BUT I... FEEL LIKE I WOKE UP FROM A LONG DREAM JUST NOW
I FOOLED MYSELF INTO BELIEVING THAT I WAS A PRINCESS THAT I WAS LIDA YOO. AND IN MY DREAM I THOUGHT YOU WERE MY PRINCE.
...WHEN, IN REALITY YOU BELONGED TO LIDA.
I DON'T LOVE YOU!


IT WAS JUST A CRUSH
IT WASN'T LOVE
WE WERE TOO DIFFERENT FROM THE BEGINNING I DON'T SEE ANY FUTURE FOR US.
YOU ARE TOO MUCH FOR ME TO DEAL WITH RIGHT NOW
...IT WASN'T LOVE.
SO FORGET ABOUT ME!

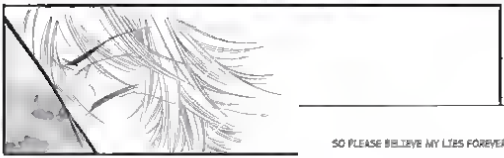
IT'S A LIE

ALL OF THIS A PACK OF LIES



BUT WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?

YOU WILL LOSE EVERYTHING YOU HAVE NOW AND EVERYTHING THAT YOU WOULD HAVE GAINED IN THE FUTURE!
EVEN THOUGH YOU WOULD HAVE BECOME THE PRESIDENT OF THIS COUNTRY IF YOU HAD TAKEN THE OTHER PATH!



SO PLEASE BELIEVE MY LIES FOREVER.

BROKEN HEARTS DON'T STAY BROKEN IT'S LIKE GETTING STABBED BY A NEEDLE YOU FEEL LIKE YOU WANNA DIE BUT IT'S ALL OVER SO FAST
IT'LL HURT A LITTLE LESS EVERY DAY AND YOU'LL GO ON LIVING YOUR LIFE LIKE NOTHING EVER HAPPENED AND YOU'LL FORGET ALL ABOUT ME
YEAH... I'M SURE OF IT
BUT
AT THIS MOMENT FOR ME
IT HURTS SO MUCH MORE THAN I THOUGHT IT WOULD
COULD YOU BE HURTING AS MUCH AS ME?
NO, RIGHT? YOU'RE FINE RIGHT?
NO! THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING!
SHE CAN'T DO THIS TO ME!!

COME BACK...
YOOI KANG!

I'M NOT GOING TO KILL MY GRANDFATHER AND I REFUSE TO RUIN SAON

I WON'T BECOME THAT KIND OF PERSON

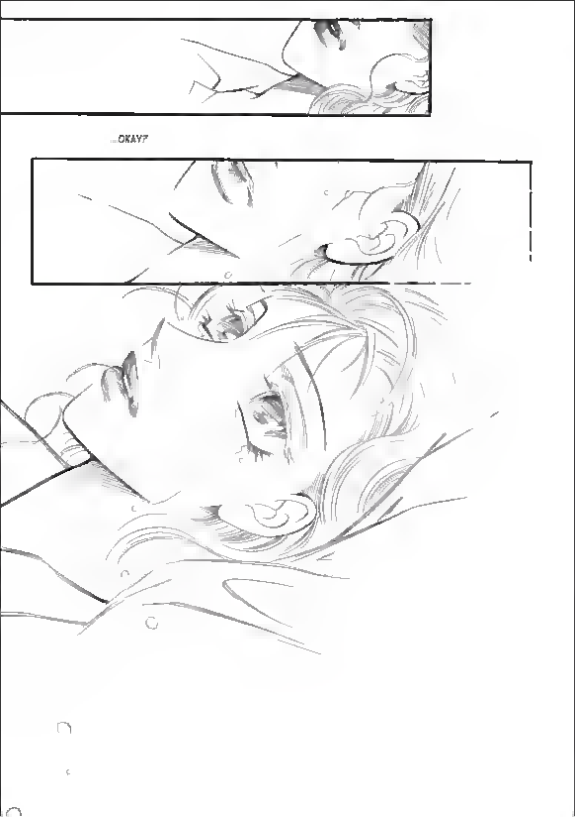
I'M THE ONE WHO NEEDS TO GO TO DISAPPEAR AS IF I WAS NEVER HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE. IF I'M GONE EVERYTHING WILL BE OKAY

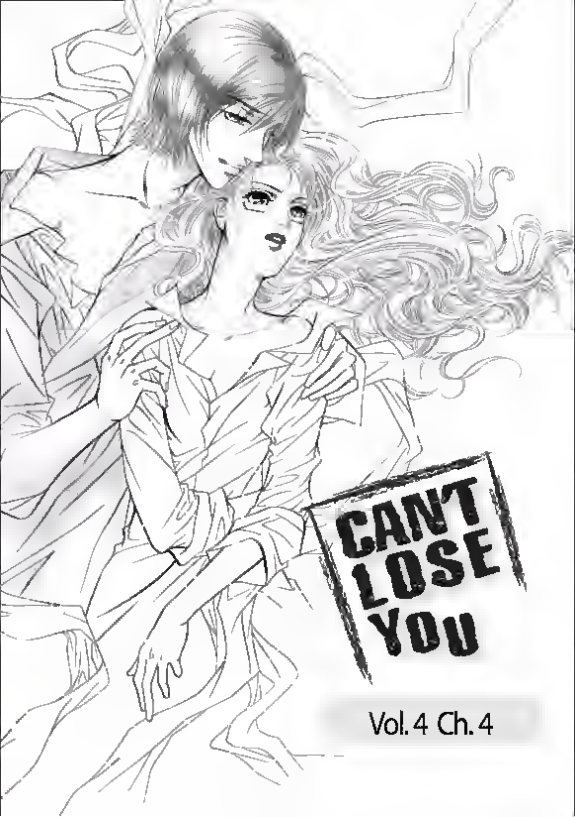
ONLY... ME

SO PLEASE TAKE GOOD CARE OF HER

YOU KNOW OUR FATES MIGHT BE DIFFERENT BUT THE BLOOD THAT FLOWS INSIDE US...

IS THE SAME


...OKAY?

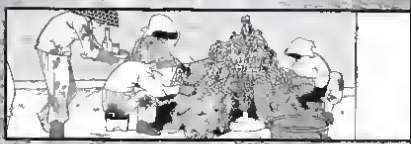


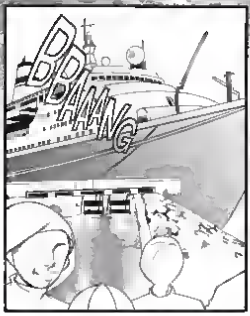
Vol. 4 Ch. 4

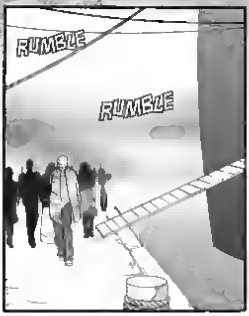
23. A YEAR LATER... I

CHANGHUN GIL ELECTED AS
MAYOR OF SEOUL

FLOP
FLOP

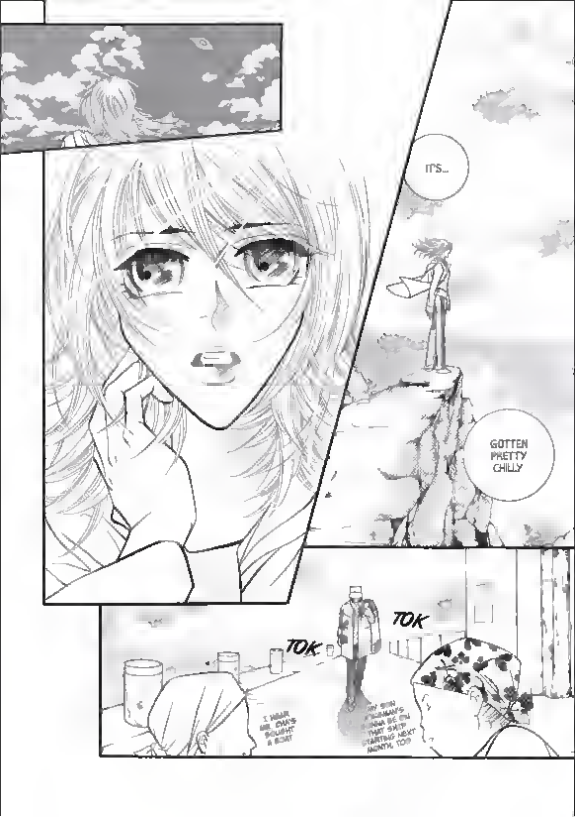


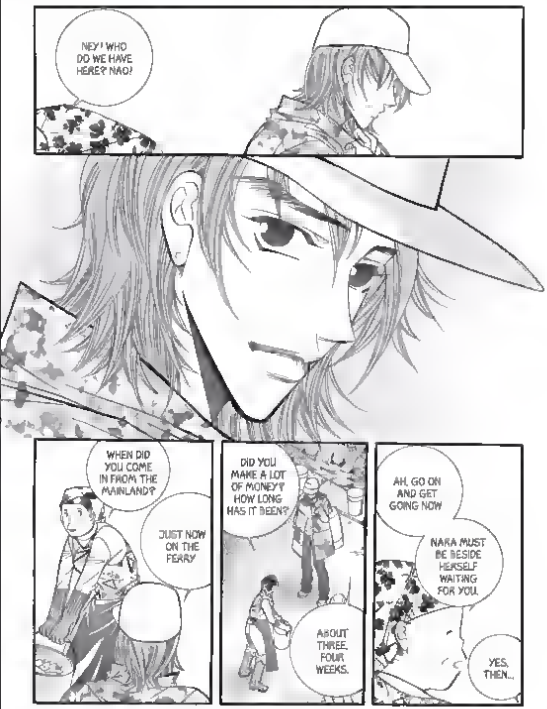

BBAAWG


RUMBLE
RUMBLE

TAP

CHAAA
CHAAA
CHAAA
SPLAAASHH
FLOP
SHSHH—
NAAH


IT'S...
GOTTEN PRETTY CHILLY
TOK
TOK
I HEAR HE OWNS BOUGHT A BOAT
OF SUCH A WOMAN'S HEART SHOULD BE IT! THAT SHOT SOMETHING NEXT MONTH, TOO!


HEY! WHO DO WE HAVE HERE? NAO!
WHEN DID YOU COME IN FROM THE MAINLAND?
JUST NOW ON THE FERRY
DID YOU MAKE A LOT OF MONEY? HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN?
ABOUT THREE, FOUR WEEKS.
AH, GO ON AND GET GOING NOW
NARA MUST BE BESIDE HERSELF WAITING FOR YOU.
YES, THEN...

WHO WAS THAT? SO FAIR, TALL, AND THIN...
DID WE ALWAYS HAVE SUCH GOOD LOOKING YOUNG MEN ON OUR ISLAND?
HE CAME LAST YEAR.
HE LIVES WITH HIS YOUNGER SISTER NAHIA ON YEWOD ISLAND
YEWOD? THE ISLAND ABOUT THIRTY MINUTES FROM HERE?
BUT WASN'T THAT ISLAND ABANDONED AFTER THE STORM WASHED AWAY THE ONLY THREE HOMES THERE?
THEY FIXED ONE OF THEM UP AND ARE LIVING THERE NOW
IT LOOKS LIKE HE GOES OUT TO THE MAINLAND FROM TIME TO TIME TO BRING HOME SOME MONEY
HUP
BONG
BONG
BONG
BONG

FLICK
FLICK
FLICK
FLICK
HOOO-
HOOO-
HOOO-
FLICK
FLICK
SMELLS NICE.

*SPICY FISH STEW

IT'S GETTING COLDER. SO I GOT YOU SOME WINTER CLOTHES.
THE WIND COMING OFF THE WATER IS FREEZING
YOU BETTER NOT COMPLAIN ABOUT THE COLOR OR DESIGN... DON'T LIKE 'EM? WEAR 'EM ANYWAY!
WHY'S IT SO TOUGH TO PICK OUT GIRL'S CLOTHES?
...DID YOU WORK AT A CONSTRUCTION SITE AGAIN?
MANUAL LABOR'S THE BEST WAY TO TURN A QUICK BUCK.
WHAT'S WRONG NOW?

EVERY TIME YOU HEAD OUT TO THE MAINLAND I THINK
THAT YOU MIGHT NEVER COME BACK...
I NEVER MEANT FOR YOU TO GET SO CAUGHT UP IN MY PROBLEMS
IF YOU'RE DOING THIS BECAUSE YOU FEEL SORRY FOR ME, YOU DON'T NEED TO
I CAN MAKE A LIVING HELPING OUT AT THE DOCKS, YOU KNOW
TRY NOT TO LEAVE THE HOUSE. IT'S NOT GOOD TO BE SEEN.

STOP GOING OUT OF YOUR WAY FOR ME.
WHY SHOULD YOU..?!
WE'RE NOT REALLY FAMILY...
GRIP
MY OLD LADY...
SAYS YOU'RE LIKE A DAUGHTER TO HER.
WHICH WOULD MAKE ME LIKE A BROTHER TO YOU.
ALL THE LOCALS THINK WE REALLY ARE BROTHER AND SISTER.
IF THAT'S WHAT WE LOOK LIKE, MAYBE IT'S TRUE.

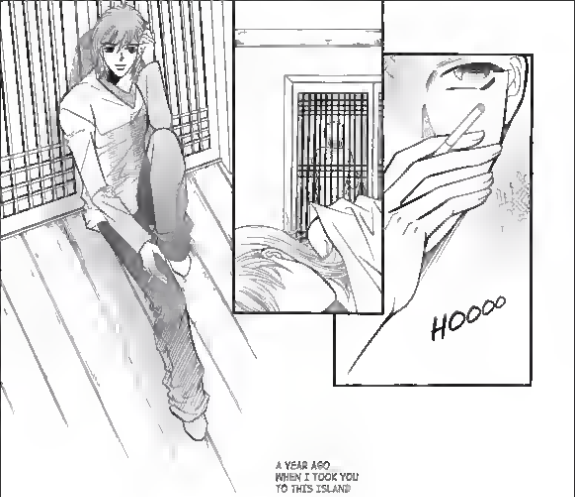
HOW'S YOUR MOM?
OKAY
APPARENTLY YOUR ADOPTED FATHER STOPS BY FROM TIME TO TIME TO ASK ABOUT YOU, BUT SHE BLOWS HIM OFF
CAUSE YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN.
BUT I THINK THAT MAN
IS SUPER WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
HOO
MY FATE MUST BE REALLY SCREWED UP. MY REAL GRANDFATHER WANTS ME DEAD AND MY REAL MOTHER DUMPED ME...
MY DAD, YOUR MOM... AND YOU... FEEL MORE LIKE A REAL FAMILY TO ME EVEN THOUGH WE'RE NOT RELATED AT ALL.

CHEER UP KIDDO
PAT
EVER SINCE WE GOT TO THIS ISLAND LAST YEAR...
YOU'VE BEEN LOOMING LIKE YOU'RE MISSING SOMETHING

WHEN I FIRST MET YOU, YOU WERE SUCH A DIPSHIT
BUT YOU WERE SO FULL OF LIFE. THERE WEREN'T ANY SHADOWS ON YOUR FACE.
NOWADAYS, YOU LOOK SO DOWN IN THE DUMPS, EVEN WHEN YOU SMILE.
DON'T BLAME YOURSELF
YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG

YOU DID NOTHING WRONG
OKAY

SPLAASHH
SPLAASHH
SPLAASHH


HOOOO
A YEAR AGO
WHEN I TOOK YOU
TO THIS ISLAND

YOU WERE SICK IN BED
FOR DAYS
UNCONSCIOUS
FROM A FEVER

YOUR PAIN MADE YOU LOOK SO SMALL. I KNEW I'D DO ANYTHING I POSSIBLY COULD FOR YOU
YEAH. IT WAS BECAUSE. YOU LEFT YOUR HEART BEHIND
EVEN THOUGH TIME HAS PASSED, I CAN STILL SEE THOSE OPEN WOUNDS ON YOU
BUT I CAN'T HEAL THEM
I'M NOT THE ONE WHO CAN HEAL THEM

WHY?
WHY NOT?
WHY CAN'T I HEAL THOSE WOUNDS?
EVEN NOW YOU CAN'T BE LEFT ALONE.
WHY CAN'T I GET CLOSER TO YOU? WHY CAN'T I BE SOMEONE SPECIAL TO YOU?
LIKE A LITTLE KITTEN SOAKED FROM THE RAIN...
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE ON YOUR LAST LEGS
AND ALL I CAN DO IS SIT NEXT TO YOU LIKE THIS...

Creepy Crane 1

WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH BUNNY BOY'S CLOTHES?
BUNNY BOY?
WHO?
EVEN THOUGH THE CRANE IS THE TONE BOSS (TONE GIRLS USUALLY DESPISE TONE BOSSES), SHE LUVS BUNNY BOY
HEY~ IT'S BUNNY BOY AGAIN.
IT'S BUNNY BOY
BUNNY BOY...
BUT WAIT! JUST WHO IS THIS BUNNY BOY?
IT'S NAO!
AFTER HIS ADORABLE APPEARANCE IN VOLUME 1 SHE'S BRANDED HIM BUNNY BOY. SHE NEVER CALLS HIM BY HIS REAL NAME

Creepy Crane 2

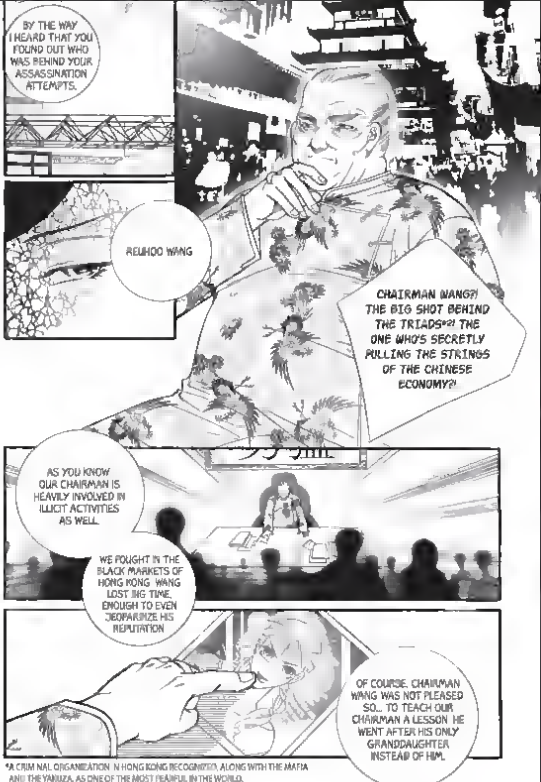
THE CRANE GETS SNAKED BY WHAT'S ON TV
I WHAT KNOW~
THE CRANE DECIDED SHE REALLY LIKED THIS EXPRESSION
AHHHH WHAT'S WITH THAT SCREECHING? WHO'S YOU IN THAT?...
I DIDN'T KNOW~
PLUS THEY SOUND SOOOO TOTALLY ALIKE
WHAT IS THIS~?
BOSS, YOU'RE AWFUL~!
HAHAHA
HAHAHA
AGAIN, THE CRANE DECIDED SHE REALLY LIKED THIS EXPRESSION
OH NO~ WHAT DO I DO? I MESSED UP WE'LL HAVE TO DO IT OVER AGAIN.
WHAT IS THIS~?
BOSS, YOU'RE AWFUL!
YES. SHE WAS WAITING FOR THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO USE THIS ONE TOO!

24: A YEAR LATER... II

IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
TAP

THAT WAS FABULOUS.
CLIK..
LIDIA YOO...

AVOIDING BEING BRANDED A TRAITOR BY PRECISELY TIMING YOUR SWITCH TO THE OTHER PARTY
INSTEAD, YOU MADE IT LOOK LIKE A COURAGEOUS DECISION. YOU BECAME A HERO IN A SINGLE BOUND
BRILLIANT MANIPULATION OF THE LAW AND THE MEDIA.
AND EVEN MASTERMINDING THAT MOMENTUM TO GAIN THE MAYORAL SEAT. IT WAS A GAMBLE BUT A BIG
THE PATH WILL BE SMOOTH FROM NOW ON FOR SENATOR GIL... I MEAN, MAYOR GIL.
YOU DID WELL, GAON GIL.
WAS IT THAT OBVIOUS TO YOU?
I AM NOT A FOOL.
YOU'D HAVE TO BE STUPID NOT TO NOTICE
ANYWAY CONGRATULATIONS IT'S A WIN FOR OUR YOORIM GROUP AS WELL.


BY THE WAY I HEARD THAT YOU FOUND OUT WHO WAS BEHIND YOUR ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS.
REUHOO WANG
CHAIRMAN WANG?! THE BIG SHOT BEHIND THE TRIADS*2! THE ONE WHO'S SECRETLY PULLING THE STRINGS OF THE CHINESE ECONOMY?!
AS YOU KNOW OUR CHAIRMAN IS HEAVILY INVOLVED IN ILLICIT ACTIVITIES AS WELL.
WE FOUGHT IN THE BLACK MARKETS OF HONG KONG. WANG LOST BIG TIME. ENOUGH TO EVEN JEOPARDIZE HIS REPUTATION
OF COURSE. CHAIRMAN WANG WAS NOT PLEASED SO... TO TEACH OUR CHAIRMAN A LESSON HE WENT AFTER HIS ONLY GRANDDAUGHTER INSTEAD OF HIM.

*A CRIMINAL ORGANIZATION IN HONG KONG RECOGNIZED ALONG WITH THE MAFIA AND THE YAKUZA, AS ONE OF THE MOST FEARFUL IN THE WORLD.

勇猛

IT WAS REALLY HARD TO TRACK THEM DOWN. THEY'RE SUCH DANGEROUS BASTARDS AND IT'S NOT A DOMESTIC MATTER.
EVEN SO, WE MANAGED TO PROSECUTE THE MIDDLEMEN, BUT THERE'S NO WAY WE COULD EVEN DREAM OF GETTING CHAIRMAN WANG. OF COURSE.
ACTUALLY, ELSA TOOK CARE OF THEM.
SO, ARE YOU GOING TO JUST LET IT GO LIKE THAT?
THE TRIAL WILL TAKE A FEW MORE YEARS BUT
WE'RE NOT REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO THE RESULTS

WELL... I CAN TAKE THE LAW INTO MY OWN HANDS TOO JUST LIKE THOSE BASTARDS.
THOSE BASTARDS SHOULD KNOW
THAT THEY MESSED WITH SOMEONE FAR MORE DANGEROUS THAN OUR GOOD OLD MR. CHAIRMAN.
勇猛

IT WILL BE A LESSON FOR EVERYONE.
KRAKLE
TOK
WHAT HAPPENS TO THOSE WHO CROSS LIDA YOO

SO YOU ALREADY TOOK CARE OF THEM
WHAT A TRAITOR
HMMPH

AH YES... I SAW THAT SCARY SECRET WEAPON OF YOURS
I THINK PEOPLE IS ACTUALLY BETTER THAN MYSELF
IT'S TRUE THAT HE'S RECKLESS.
WHEN I WAS SHOT LAST YEAR, NO ONE WAS ABLE TO CONTROL HIM.
HE WAS LIKE...
A SHARP BLADE THAT GAVE OFF A BLUISH SHINE.
YOU ARE INDEED A MOST REMARKABLE WOMAN
...

IF WE WERE TOGETHER, THERE IS NOTHING WE COULDN'T DO
YOU ALREADY KNOW THAT
I AM THE MOST SUITABLE PERSON TO COMPLEMENT YOUR TRUE NATURE.

YES.. I KNOW
BUT YOU AND I.. SHARE A COMMON MEMORY ABOUT A CERTAIN PERSON.

AS LONG AS THAT MEMORY STANDS BETWEEN US...
YOU PROBABLY WON'T EVER BELONG TO ME.

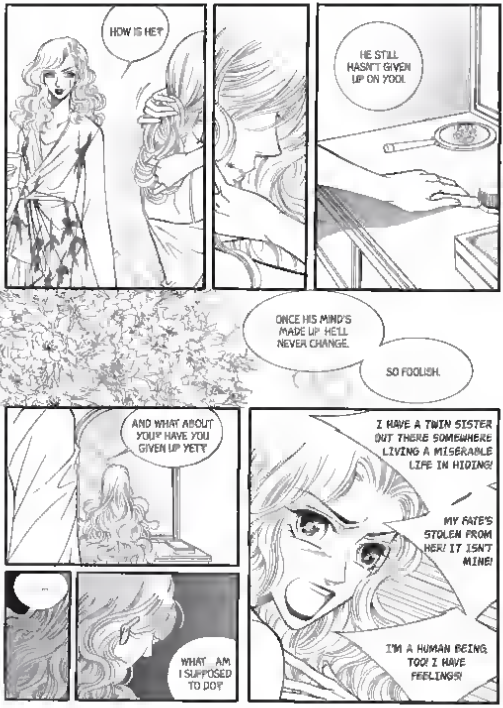
SHUT UP!
IS MERE MENTION OF HER NAME STILL SO PAINFUL?
WE ARE... STILL ENGAGED THOUGH THAT'S ONLY A FACADE.

I WON'T FORCE YOU LIKE I DID IN THE OLD DAYS
I KNOW THAT IT'S USELESS.
BUT... I CAN WAIT RIGHT?
THE WIND CAN WEAR DOWN EVEN ROCKS WITH TIME.
NO FEELING LASTS FOREVER.
YOU'VE... CHANGED A LOT
HER BLOOD NOW FLOWS INSIDE ME, YOU KNOW
I THINK SOMETHING CHANGED AFTER THAT

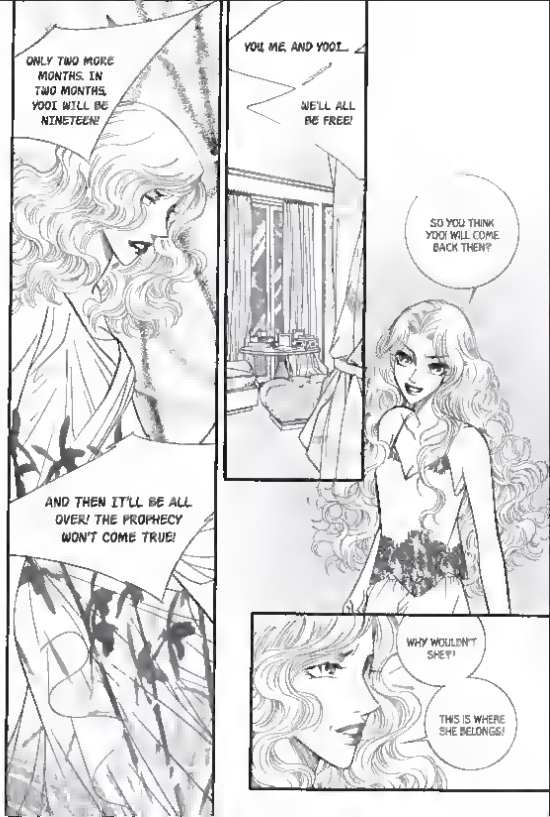
A HEART IS LIKE A DOUBLE EDGED SWORD
THE MORE YOU HATE SOMEONE, THE MORE YOU HURT YOURSELF
DON'T BECOME LIKE THAT, GAON.
I TOLD YOU!
THAT THE ONE THING I WON'T FORGIVE YOU FOR IS LEAVING ME...!
DON'T...
HATE...?

SHUT UP
SHUT UP
SHUT UP!

DID YOU SEE GADNT
YES.


HOW IS HE?
HE STILL HASN'T GIVEN UP ON YOU!
ONCE HIS MIND'S MADE UP HE'LL NEVER CHANGE.
SO FOOLISH.
AND WHAT ABOUT YOU? HAVE YOU GIVEN UP YET?
I HAVE A TWIN SISTER OUT THERE SOMEWHERE LIVING A MISERABLE LIFE IN HIDING!
MY FATE'S STOLEN FROM HER! IT ISN'T MINE!
I'M A HUMAN BEING, TOO! I HAVE FEELINGS!
...
WHAT... AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?

HOW CAN I BE ALRIGHT?!
HUFF
HUFF


ONLY TWO MORE MONTHS. IN TWO MONTHS, YOOI WILL BE NINETEEN!
AND THEN IT'LL BE ALL OVER! THE PROPHECY WON'T COME TRUE!
YOU, ME, AND YOOI...
WE'LL ALL BE FREE!
SO YOU THINK YOOI WILL COME BACK THEN?
WHY WOULDN'T SHE?!
THIS IS WHERE SHE BELONGS!

MOM, YOU DON'T KNOW YOO!..

What are they up to these days?

YOO!

OH, WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR EYES?
POOF-
POOF-
LOOK AT THIS! I'VE BEEN CRYING NON STOP SINCE THE MIDDLE OF VOLUME 3!
GRRR!
TELL THE AUTHOR SHE'S SO IN FOR IT NOW!

LIDA

NAO

GAON

HE'S ACTUALLY A CLOSET NARCISSIST

ILYA, MEANWHILE...